



Atty. Docket No. EZL-001M  
Serial No.: 10/708,658

IFCW

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 21, 2004.

*Jen Z. Butler*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of :  
Rodrick A. HERDMAN : Confirmation No.: Unknown  
Serial No.: 10/708,658 : Art Unit: Unknown  
Filing Date: March 17, 2004 :  
For: **Rapid-Change Lock**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98 (WITHIN 3 MONTHS OF FILING OR PRIOR TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION)**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants request the Examiner to make of record the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 form. Copies of the listed non-US documents are also enclosed. In accordance with MPEP 609, the Examiner is requested to initial each document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 form in the space provided, make a copy of the initialed form, and return the copy to Applicants' attorney.

Applicant has provided two (2) foreign language patent references, with English abstracts accompanying the original text. Applicant has also provided an English language Canadian patent, as well as copies of six (6) English language pages cited from a catalog published by Schliessanlagen GmbH Pfaffenhain in 2002.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior

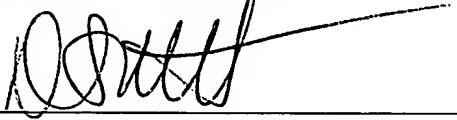
art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This paper and the enclosed documents are being submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), i.e., within three (3) months of the application filing date or prior to a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due.

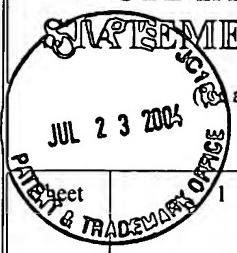
Respectfully submitted,  
For: Rodrick A. HERDMAN

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel F. Nesbitt  
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Customer Number 26868

July 21, 2004

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|--|--|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><small>(as many sheets as necessary)</small> |  |  |  | <i>Complete if Known</i> |                    |
|  |  |  |  | Application Number       | 10/708,658         |
|  |  |  |  | Filing Date              | March 17, 2004     |
|  |  |  |  | First Named Inventor     | Rodrick A. Herdman |
|  |  |  |  | Art Unit                 |                    |
|  |  |  |  | Examiner Name            |                    |
|  |  |  |  | Attorney Docket Number   | EZL-001M           |


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| <b>U. S. P A T E N T D O C U M E N T S</b> |                       |                 |                                     |                                |  |   |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*                         | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number |                                     | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
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| Filing Date            | March 17, 2004     |
| First Named Inventor   | Rodrick A. Herdman |
| Art Unit               |                    |
| Examiner Name          |                    |
| Attorney Docket Number | EZL-001M           |

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages or<br>Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
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|                    |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |

## OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

|                    |                       |  |                |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s) volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
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|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|